

MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS

February 2, 2016

**Ensuring Culturally Competent Supports within the Relative Support
Services Demonstration Project**

The County of Los Angeles remains committed to meeting the comprehensive needs of children and youth in our dependency system. It is important that we continue to strengthen supports that help create nurturing placements with foster parents and relative caregivers.

On June 9, 2015, this Board adopted a motion directing the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), in consultation with the Interim Chief Executive Officer, the Office of Child Protection, and the Departments of Public Social Services (DPSS) and Community and Senior Services (CSS), to report back on all the services provided to relative caregivers.

In addition, the motion requested the use of a solicitation process for the development of a Demonstration Project where DCFS would partner with community-based organizations (CBOs) to develop Kinship Support programs. As a result, DCFS developed the Relative Support Services (RSS) Demonstration Project to contract with qualified CBOs to provide kinship services. Given the nature of this new strategy, we must ensure that relative caregivers from all cultural backgrounds are fully supported

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with the launch of the RSS Demonstration Project by offering culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach and resources.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services, to include within the scope of work for the RSS Demonstration Project, mechanisms to ensure that the services provided to RSS clients (relative caregivers) are culturally and linguistically competent. This shall include an assessment of demographics, including race, ethnicity and preferred language to ensure that these are taken into account when developing materials and that staff and RSS providers can meet these outreach requirements.

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HLS:rv